John S. Reed Chairman

153 E. 53rd Street New York, NY 10043

April 17, 1998



Mr. Hugh L. McColl, Jr. President and Executive Officer NationsBank Corporation

Dear Hugh,

I apologize for being late. I am sure you will understand we seem to have all been busy.

As you know we have been analyzing alternatives for our card business - we looked at starting a new association, at teaming with existing authorization networks (e.g. Discover) and at modifying the rules of Visa (or M/C) to permit a "non-branded" class of member.

My sense is that two alternatives are viable. If a number of us want to get together we can create a new network, gain full merchant acceptance, use Citicorp's global acceptance capabilities (Diners) to service our US customers outside of this country. Each issuing bank would use its own brand...the merchant decal would feature each issuers brand. The cost of building an acceptance network would be approximately 1.0 billion dollars, we save our 18 basis points on sales now paid to the associations, we would authorize and thereby quarantee checks as well as cards at the point of sale and should have operating costs for clearing and settlement that are comparable or lower than those currently incurred. If we give full priority we could target parity merchant acceptance in six months. In establishing the new network we would have a common merchant contract, however each issuer would have a BIN number permitting individual contracts later.

Alternatively, Visa has indicated a willingness to support the modification to the by-laws necessary to permit a new class of issuers: one that did not use the Visa name other than "on the back" for merchant acceptance. Those who selected this category would not pay for, nor benefit from, advertising or product development activities. Our association fees would be reduced by 5-6 basis points. I would assume that each of us would put a senior (ourselves?) on the Board and be sure to move the association towards

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I would be willing to move either way - the first is "cleaner" and avoids conflicts with "Visa issuers". But we must bear the costs of establishing a "new" system. Working through the association allows us to continue to benefit from our "sunk investments" but keeps alive an association and its governance that is anything but united in its interest.

I think that we should get together. I will ask my secretary, Terry, to call and see when and where we would be able to meet.

John S. Reed Chairman

153 E. 53rd Street New York, NY 10043

April 17, 1998

Mr. Verne G. Istock Chairman First Chicago NBD Corporation

Dear Verne,

I apologize for being late. I am sure you will understand we seem to have all been busy.

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John S. Reed Chairman

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April 17, 1998

Mr. Thomas G. Labrecque The Chase Manhattan Corporation

Dear Tom,

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John S. Reed Chairman

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April 17, 1998

Mr. David A. Coulter Chairman BankAmerica Corporation

Dear Dave,

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Mr. John B. McCoy Chairman Banc One Corporation

Dear John,

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Mr. Carl Pascarella President and CEO Visa USA Inc.

Dear Carl,

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